

invitation to prestigious “thought leaders” roundtable.

Hartford Foundation invitation to multidisciplinary “Change AGent” conference of geriatric specialists from across the United States.

Co-presenters with National Institute on Health and ACL at National Association of Area Agencies on Aging conference on Recruiting Older Adults into Research.

Community-based Care Transitions Program, funded by Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, achieved milestone of assisting 10,000 patients in reducing hospital readmission in 11 hospitals across 32 counties.

National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA) “Standards for Long-Term Services and Support and Medical Care” Learning Collaborative, selected as 1 of only 10 organizations nationwide.

Rosalynn Carter Institute on Caregiving National Summit, invited to present showcasing achievements of evidence-based chronic disease telephonic support featuring staff, local caregiver and their care recipient.

The organization’s 40th Annual Meeting and Awards Ceremony will be held on Wednesday, October 28, 2015, at the Parkview Mirro Center in Fort Wayne, Indiana. Joan Lunden, a cancer survivor, journalist, television host, and renowned caregiver will be the featured speaker. I ask that my colleagues join me today in celebrating this organization’s service to the most vulnerable of our citizens in northeast Indiana, and extend our best wishes for their future.

IN RECOGNITION OF STEVEN D.
CHAN, D.D.S.

HON. ERIC SWALWELL

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 27, 2015

Mr. SWALWELL of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Dr. Steven D. Chan on his upcoming installation as President of the American College of Dentists. I am honored to recognize Dr. Chan’s distinguished career and contributions to the City of Fremont.

Dr. Chan is a third-generation Californian, born and raised in Los Angeles. After receiving his undergraduate degree from UCLA, he earned his dental degree from Georgetown University and completed his residency at Martin Luther King/Los Angeles County Hospital. Dr. Chan has had a practice in pediatric dentistry in Fremont for over 30 years. Dr. Chan’s professional honors include Fellowships in the Academy of Dentistry International, American Academy of Pediatric Dentists, and the International College of Dentists.

In addition to his professional accomplishments, Dr. Chan is also a dedicated leader in the City of Fremont. His leadership in the community includes serving as Chair of Ohlone Community College’s Oversight Committee and as Commissioner of the City of Fremont Library Commission. He has been honored as the Citizens for a Better Community’s Citizen of the Year, the Asian Business Alliance Business Owner of the Year, and the Asian Pacific Islander American Public Affairs Business Leader of the Year.

Dr. Chan’s exceptional leadership will be well-matched for his new role as the President

of the American College of Dentists. He will be the first Asian American to lead this highly respected organization. I know his wife, Sue, and their two sons are very proud of Dr. Chan’s achievement. On behalf of his wonderful family, I want to congratulate Dr. Chan on this tremendous honor.

CELEBRATING THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE AMERICAN SOKOL ORGANIZATION

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 27, 2015

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 150th Anniversary of the American Sokol Organization. As one of the first organized gymnastics and fitness organizations in the United States, I would like to congratulate the American Sokol Organization on this important milestone and applaud them for its continued efforts to provide fitness, educational, and cultural programs to their communities. The American Sokol Organization will celebrate this anniversary on November 14, 2015 at the Women’s Athletic Club of Chicago, and as a Co-Chair of the Czech Caucus, I am pleased to see them mark such an important date.

The anniversary celebration taking place in Chicago will feature two important guests. I want to take this opportunity to congratulate Petr Gandalovic, Ambassador of the Czech Republic to the United States, and Kristyna Pellouchoud Driehaus, KMD Foundation, American Friends of the Czech Republic and Chicago Czech Center for taking part in this magnificent celebration as Honorary Co-Chairs.

On March 19, 2015, I attended a wreath laying ceremony marking the 25th Anniversary of Vaclav Havel’s speech to a joint session of Congress and dedicating his bust’s new and permanent location in Freedom Foyer. This event was attended by leaders of Congress, and Czech Ambassador to the United States, Petr Gandalovic.

The first American Sokol unit was founded by Czech and Slovak immigrants, Karel Prochazka, Jaroslav Vostrovsky, and E.B. Erben, in Saint Louis, Missouri in 1865. At that time, large numbers of immigrants were flocking to the United States and these founders created community centers for their children to learn and engage in fitness activities—these centers were the first American Sokols.

During the first 50 years of the organization, many American Sokols were formed throughout the United States, and all of these units were incorporated into the American Sokol Organization on January 1, 1917. Today, well into its second century in service, American Sokol remains an organization dedicated to the physical, mental, and cultural enrichment of its members. American Sokol has been shaping the lives of Olympians, diplomats, artists, athletes, and most importantly, the families in the communities in which we serve.

Sokol is the Czechoslovak word for falcon, and it is an appropriate symbol since the falcon is a bird that has great love for freedom, as well as strength, courage and agility. The Sokol philosophy strives for physical fitness for their members, believing that to maintain a

free nation, its people must be physically and morally strong.

American Sokol members represent a wide age range. Members range from preschool children to retired adults. This diversity allows older members to pass on the benefit of their wisdom and experience to the young people in a personal way. In combining Czechoslovak culture, the American heritage, and American Sokol ideals, this organization has contributed greatly to the welfare of the United States. Many American Sokol members have served their country with distinction, in World War I, World War II, the Korean War, and the Vietnam conflict, and beyond.

I am proud to join with American Sokol members in the 9th Congressional District of Illinois, which I am honored to represent, and members of American Sokol Organization in the City of Chicago and all over the United States, as they celebrate their 150 years of excellence, achievement, and contributions to the greatness of the United States.

H.R. 597 “REAUTHORIZING OF EXPORT-IMPORT BANK OF THE UNITED STATES”

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 27, 2015

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, as a senior member of the Homeland Security Committee, I rise to speak on H.R. 597, which reauthorizes the Export-Import Bank for four years.

It is unfortunate that it has taken this body so long to get to this point and it was inexcusable that the House Republican leadership allowed the Ex-Im Bank authorization to expire on June 30, 2015 before.

That intransigence made it necessary for a bipartisan majority of this House to resort to a discharge petition as the vehicle to bring this legislation to the floor.

Mr. Speaker, the Ex-Im Bank enables U.S. companies, large and small, to turn export opportunities into real sales that help to maintain and create U.S. jobs and contribute to a stronger national economy.

For more than 80 years the Ex-Im Bank has helped Texas businesses generate over \$29 billion in exports, \$4.3 billion of which originated from businesses in the 18th Congressional District of Texas.

In May of this year I hosted Export-Import Bank President Fred. P. Hochberg for a historic tour of vital and thriving small businesses in the 18th Congressional District.

We toured Frenchy’s Sausage Manufacturing which is a company that currently services over 200 businesses.

Frenchy’s Sausage recently completed an expansion of plant facilities to accommodate the tremendous growth the company has experienced.

We also toured Tejas Tubular, a company that built and opened their casing facility in 2005 to process larger diameter API casings and, which in 2011 opened the ERW tubing plant in Stephenville, Texas, and has processed more than 14 million joints of tubing and casing.

Mr. Speaker, when operating on a level playing field, American exporters can compete against anyone.

The Ex-Im Bank partners with American exporters, such as Tejas Tubular and Frenchy's Sausage Manufacturing in Houston, so they can close more deals abroad and support more middle class jobs here at home.

The Ex-Im Bank is an independent federal agency that supports and maintains U.S. jobs by filling gaps in private export financing at no cost to American taxpayers.

The Ex-Im Bank provides a variety of financing mechanisms, including working capital guarantees and export credit insurance, to promote the sale of U.S. goods and services abroad, 90 percent of which directly serve American small businesses.

"In fiscal year 2014, the Ex-Im Bank approved \$20.5 billion in total authorizations. These authorizations supported an estimated \$27.5 billion in U.S. export sales, as well as approximately 164,000 American jobs in communities across the country.

Recently Diversitybusiness.com announced the selection of Ex-Im Bank as one of the top agencies providing opportunities for small and minority businesses to expand export business operations.

Since 2009, the Ex-Im Bank has authorized more financing to support the growth of minority- and women-owned businesses than it did over the previous sixteen years combined.

In FY 2014, the Ex-Im Bank financed U.S. exports from minority- and women-owned businesses valued at more than \$2 billion.

Mr. Speaker, the Ex-Im is dedicated to pursuing equality of opportunity and supporting economic growth and jobs here in Houston and across America.

I strongly support H.R. 597, which reauthorizes the vital agency that does so much to help American business create and maintain high-paying jobs for American families.

HONORING DR. ALLEN PAUL
WEAVER

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 27, 2015

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a spiritual leader in the New Rochelle community, Reverend Dr. Paul Allen Weaver, who for 35 years has led the Bethesda Baptist Church of New Rochelle congregation with great distinction and remarkable integrity.

Originally from Orlando, Florida, Reverend Weaver answered the call to join the ministry at age 17. He graduated from Florida Memorial University in 1969 with a B.S. in Religious Education, and graduated with his Masters of Divinity Degree in 1972.

In July 1980, Reverend Weaver came to New Rochelle as Pastor of Bethesda Baptist, and began what has been an incredible multi-decade partnership with the community. During his formative years at Bethesda Baptist, Reverend Weaver helped institute many social programs to address the needs of the neighborhood. He created the Lad's Lunch Ministry, which fed over 100 people for over 25 years. Through the Helping Hand Ministry, the church was able to address the lack of adequate clothing for those less fortunate in the community. And the development of the Family Life

Center as part of the church's 120th anniversary has created a beautiful community facility for thousands to enjoy.

Reverend Weaver's list of accomplishments also extend beyond Bethesda Baptist. He has taught as an adjunct professor at New York Theological Seminary in New York, served as President of the prestigious Baptist Ministers Conference of Greater New York, and was President of the New Rochelle branch of the NAACP.

But Reverend Weaver's greatest joy has always been derived from his family. He married the love of his life, Deacon Nettie J. Weaver, and together they have two sons, Allen and Cyrus-Charles, a daughter-in-law, Ilnanya, and one grandson, Noble Xavier Weaver.

This year, Bethesda Baptist is holding a commemorative luncheon in Reverend Weaver's honor celebrating his 35 years as pastor. Congratulations to Reverend Weaver on this great honor.

IN SUPPORT OF H.R. 597, THE REFORM EXPORTS AND EXPAND THE AMERICAN ECONOMY ACT

HON. GENE GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 27, 2015

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 597, legislation to reauthorize the Export-Import Bank of the United States, our nation's official export credit agency.

The Export-Import Bank, created 80 years ago during the depths of the Great Depression, has been authorized 16 times by Congress with overwhelming bipartisan majorities and has broad support from industry and labor for the very simple fact that it works.

Since 2009, the Ex-Im Bank has supported more than 1.3 million jobs and has returned over \$2 billion in deficit-reducing profits to the U.S. Treasury while providing over \$27 billion in export credit last year alone.

My home state of Texas is the number one beneficiary of Ex-Im's support for American business and jobs. Nearly one-in-five companies receiving financing from the Ex-Im Bank call Texas home. Ex-Im supports more than 135,000 jobs in Texas and provides financing to over 1,600 companies, over half of which are small businesses and nearly 10 percent are minority-owned.

The Ex-Im Bank has supported over \$11 billion in export sales for Houston-area companies for the past five years, more than any other region in the country, with \$3.5 billion going to local small businesses. In fact, Harris County is home to the largest number of small businesses that use Ex-Im.

America has already felt the negative impact of Congress's failure to reauthorize Ex-Im and freeze its ability to issue loans for the past four months. In September, General Electric, one of America's most important domestic manufacturers, announced it would move 500 jobs from Texas and other states to France, Hungary, and China because it would receive export credit financing overseas that's no longer available here.

Boeing, one of our nation's largest companies, announced in recent months that it has lost two satellite manufacturing bids to over-

seas competitors because it no longer had access to Ex-Im financing.

Mr. Speaker, at a time when foreign competition is becoming more fierce than ever before, with nations like China using any means necessary to win contracts in overseas markets, Congress must act immediately on this pressing matter. I call on all my colleagues to stand with working families and American businesses and join me by voting to reauthorize the Export-Import Bank.

LT. COL. THOMAS PARR—SOLDIER, SURGEON, AND SCHOLAR

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 27, 2015

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, Dr. Thomas J. Parr's story should be taught and known. This man reflects what is good and right about our country.

In 1967, Thomas Parr graduated from the United States Military Academy. While studying and training at West Point, he completed Ranger School. This earned him the coveted Ranger Tab. After graduation, he served in two tours to Germany and Vietnam. In Germany, he commanded an Armored Cavalry Troop during the Soviet Union's invasion of Czechoslovakia. In Vietnam, he served as Commander of a Mechanized Infantry Company. The training he endured in Ranger School provided him with the tools to soldier as a combat leader.

He commanded his troop to root out the Viet Cong underground organization. He did this by moving his troop quickly through the search areas in order to barricade villages harboring Viet Cong. This provided the village with protection and ultimately drove out the enemy. For his service and leadership in Vietnam, he earned the Combat Infantryman Badge and three Bronze Stars for Valor and Merit.

After serving time in combat, he soon realized his calling was medicine. Parr stayed enlisted and got his degree from the University of Texas Southwestern Medical School in Dallas in 1975. He traded his officer's uniform for scrubs and became an Orthopedic Surgeon. He interned and did his residency at Brooke Army Medical Center in San Antonio. By the late 80s, he relocated to Madigan Army Medical Center in Tacoma, Washington to become the Assistant Chief of Orthopedics. There, he set up the surgery department and trained physicians. He was among the first Army surgeons to start performing arthroscopic surgery.

He served our country over 20 years and retired as United States Army Medical Corps Colonel. Following his military retirement in 1987, Dr. Parr and his wife, Joannie, came back to Texas—of course. Once back in the Lone Star State, Dr. Parr started a private practice in Sugar Land. And the rest they say is history. His achievements as an orthopedic surgeon have made him well known and well respected. He is recognized nationally as a leader in Orthopedic and Sports Injury Medicine and today, he continues to make remarkable strides in the medical field. He's the first in the nation to perform MAKOpasty—a robotic arm procedure used in knee replacement surgery.